

UTAH CODE ANNOTATED, 26-18, PART 3  
TITLE 26, CHAPTER 18: MEDICAL ASSISTANCE ACT  
PART 3: ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

26-18-301. Definitions.

As used in this part:

(1) "Medically underserved population" means the population of an urban or rural area or a population group designated by the department as having a shortage of primary health care services.

(2) "Primary health care" means:

(a) basic and general health care services given when a person seeks assistance to screen for or to prevent illness and disease, or for simple and common illnesses and injuries; and

(b) care given for the management of chronic diseases.

(3) "Primary health care services" include, but are not limited to:

(a) services of physicians, all nurses, physician's assistants, and dentists licensed to practice in this state under Title 58;

(b) diagnostic and radiologic services;

(c) preventive health services including, but not limited to, perinatal services, well-child services, and other services that seek to prevent disease or its consequences;

(d) emergency medical services;

(e) preventive dental services; and

(f) pharmaceutical services.

26-18-302. Department to award grants - Applications.

(1) Within appropriations specified by the Legislature for this purpose, the department may make grants to public and nonprofit entities for the cost of operation of providing primary health care services to medically underserved populations.

(2) Grants by the department shall be awarded based on applications submitted to the department in the manner and form prescribed by the department and by [Section 26-18-303](#). The application shall contain a requested award amount, budget, and narrative plan of the manner in which the applicant intends to provide the primary care services described in this chapter.

(3) Applicants under this chapter must demonstrate to the department that they will operate in a manner such that no person shall be denied service by reason of his inability to pay. This does not preclude the applicant from seeking payment from the patient, a third party, or government agency that is authorized or that is under legal obligation to pay such charges.

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26-18-303. Content of applications.

Applications for grants under this chapter shall include:

- (1) a statement of specific, measurable objectives, and the methods to be used to assess the achievement of those objectives;
- (2) the precise boundaries of the area to be served by the entity making the application, including a description of the medically underserved population to be served by the grant;
- (3) the results of an assessment of need demonstrating that the population to be served has a need for the services provided by the applicant;
- (4) a description of the personnel responsible for carrying out the activities of the grant along with a statement justifying the use of any grant funds for the personnel;
- (5) letters and other forms of evidence showing that efforts have been made to secure financial and professional assistance and support for the services to be provided under the grant;
- (6) a list of services to be provided by the applicant;
- (7) the schedule of fees to be charged by the applicant;
- (8) the estimated number of medically underserved persons to be served with the grant award; and
- (9) other provisions as determined by the department.

26-18-304. Process and criteria for awarding grants.

The department shall establish rules in accordance with Title 63, Chapter 46a, Utah Administrative Rulemaking Act, governing the application form, process, and criteria it will use in awarding grants under this chapter. In awarding grants, the department shall consider the extent to which the applicant:

- (1) demonstrates that the area or a population group to be served under the application has a shortage of primary health care and that the services will be located so that they will provide assistance to the greatest number of persons residing in such area or included in such population group;
- (2) utilizes other sources of funding, including private funding, to provide primary health care;
- (3) demonstrates the ability and expertise to serve traditionally medically underserved populations including persons of limited English-speaking ability, single heads of households, the elderly, persons with low incomes, and persons with chronic diseases;
- (4) demonstrates that it will assume financial risk for a specified number of medically underserved persons within its catchment area for a predetermined level of care on a prepaid capitation basis; and
- (5) meets other criteria determined by the department.

26-18-305. Report on implementation.

The department shall report to the Health and Environment Interim Committee by November 1, 1994, and every year thereafter on the implementation of the grant program for primary care services. The report shall include a description of the scope and level of coverage provided to low-income persons by primary care grant programs and by the medical assistance program established in [Section 26-18-10](#). The report shall also include recommendations to minimize the loss of revenue by hospitals that serve a disproportionate share of persons under [Section 26-18-10](#).

R434. Health Systems Improvement, Primary Care and Rural Health.  
R434-30. Primary Care Grants Program for Medically Underserved Populations.

R434-30-1. Authority and Purpose.  
R434-30-2. Definitions.  
R434-30-3. Grant Application Process and Form.  
R434-30-4. Additional Criteria for Awarding Grants.

R434-30-1. Authority and Purpose.

This rule is required by Section 26-18-304. It implements the primary care grants program for medically underserved populations under Title 26, Chapter 18, Part 3.

R434-30-2. Definitions.

Terms used in this rule are defined in Section 26-18-301.

R434-30-3. Grant Application Process and Form.

The department shall solicit grant applications by issuing a request for grant applications. Applicants responding to the request for grant applications under this program shall submit their application as directed in the grant application guidance issued by the department.

R434-30-4. Additional Criteria for Awarding Grants.

- (1) In addition to the criteria listed in Section 26-18-304, the department shall consider:
- (a) the reasonableness of the cost of the services to be given;
  - (b) degree to which primary health care services are provided comprehensively, extent to which supplemental services are provided, and extent to which services are conveniently located;
  - (c) demonstrated ability and willingness of applicant to systematically review the quality of care;
  - (d) commitment of applicant to sustain or enhance primary health care capacity for underserved, disadvantaged, and vulnerable populations; and
  - (e) degree to which the application is feasible, clearly described, and ready to be implemented.

KEY: primary care, underserved, grants  
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